

This Store Will Not Be Open Any Night Before Xmas

Miller & Rhoads

"The Store of the Christmas Spirit."

TO-DAY---

Then To-Morrow---Then Xmas

Busy as the proverbial bees, and yet this vast business runs with a smoothness and comfort of all concerned that suggests "first of the season" rather than the last.

Reason is we never gave such careful service. Plans for the benefit of our patrons were never so carefully made, nor so accurate in execution. Our success is for you to enjoy to its fullest. COME TO-DAY.

All the Solid Sterling Silver Comb and Brush Sets Reduced to Cost!

A movement inaugurated to close out every Sterling Silver Toilet Set before the closing of the doors at 7 P. M. Saturday.

4 Toilet Sets that were \$25.00 now \$16.50

Toilet, Manicure and Comb and Brush Combination Sets, consisting of a large number of pieces: all in sterling silver; each set in handsome green moire case.

Comb, Brush and Mirror Sets

Beautiful carved and plain designs in SOLID STERLING SILVER, each set nicely boxed; very acceptable for a gift.

- 3 Sets, were \$10.00 each reduced to.....\$ 6.50
- 5 Sets, were \$12 each, reduced to.....\$ 7.50
- 1 Set, was \$15.00, now reduced to.....\$10.50
- 2 Sets, were \$16.50, each, reduced to.....\$12.00
- 1 Set, was \$19.50, now reduced to.....\$13.50

NOTE: All the above goods are strictly high-class in every particular and are not to be confused with cheaper grades (even in sterling) sometimes offered at these prices. On sale to-morrow morning.

Main Floor—Near Main Entrance.

TOBACCO PRICES PUZZLE FARMERS

CHESTERFIELD IS NOT RESPONSIBLE

Lugs Bring Fancy Figures, While Choice Dark Leaves Drop the Market.

Judge Watson Says Court Isn't Called Upon to Settle for Extra Meals.

Tobacco growers of this State are wondering more and more every day over the remarkable gyrations being achieved in the matter of prices of that product. Each individual has his pet theory, and the fact that there are so many explanations suggests that nobody really knows.

For one thing, the farmers of the Southern would like to be informed why it is that the finest and choicest dark tobacco "lugs" can grow—that bought by the American and Russian governments—is hanging around the cellar in price, while the lugs, almost the refuse of the crop, are booming at hitherto unheard of figures.

What astounds the grower more than anything else is the fact that the top or bottom leaves of the plants, which have dragged the ground and become trampled, muddled and generally trampled and disreputable, are used by the American Tobacco Company or its successors, while the now hydra-headed concern does not use the best of the dark tobacco crop.

Rightly or wrongly, the growers are unconvinced by looking for unexpectedly high prices from buyers for the now dissolved combination.

Blotting Prices.

Anyway, here are the facts: Austrian, the long, dark product, choicest and sweetest of the Scotch, is druggies and foundering around at about \$10 per hundred, while the lugs are selling for perhaps a little higher in some cases; Italian, the shorter, dark tobacco of the same region, is selling at \$8 or thereabouts. Buyers simply say that this is all Austria and Italy, where the governments of the manufacturers will pay. The American Tobacco Company has always said it had no market for it.

And the lugs, the despised by-product, which many a Virginia farmer has been glad to get rid of at 50 cents to \$1 a hundred, are strong and hearty at from \$6 to \$10. All on the same plant.

Bright tobacco is high and the market active. Twelve to eighteen dollars a hundred is being paid. The crop was off in volume, and the processors to the American Tobacco Company seem to be liberal. But then the dark crop was off, too.

Jury Adjourns for Holidays. The jury in the Law and Equity Court was adjourned yesterday by Judge Grant to December 25.

THE SAVINGS BANK OF RICHMOND 110 E. MAIN ST.

In the days of trouble your bank account is your best friend. One dollar starts an account.

UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY FOR POSTAL SAVINGS FUNDS

INCREASE IN FINFISH

Commissioner Lee Corrects Misconceptions.

In the published reports of the Department of the Commission of Fisheries, Commissioner Lee has not meant to say that the fisheries interests have increased 50 per cent in four years, but that the fish production shows such an increase. The United States census reports for 1908 give the fish output of Virginia at a value of \$599,000, whereas this year it is \$1,000,000. This, of course, does not refer to shellfish, though the output has increased materially.

The commission will make no recommendation for legislation at the coming session of the legislature, but of course, cannot decide what the General Assembly shall do.

Captain Gets Present. Captain T. B. McDowell, of Company A, Richmond Blues, has been presented with a job by members of the squad which won the battalion cup for his company on the hike to Petersburg. It is felt by the squad that Captain McDowell's co-operation and encouragement went far toward giving them victory. The job was presented through Mercer Williams.

Sunday School Entertainment. The scholars of Holy Trinity Church Sunday school will have their Christmas celebration this afternoon at 1 o'clock in the parish house.

HIGHER LICENSE FOR LIQUOR MEN

Program of Legislation Contemplates Further Increases in Taxes.

REFERENDUM NOT EXPECTED

Believed Big Dry Territory for Dealers Will Permit Higher Charge.

Further increases in the amount of license taxes paid to the State by manufacturers of and dealers in intoxicating liquors may be expected at the hands of the General Assembly at its coming session. The higher rate will probably apply almost entirely to small order liquor houses and wholesale dealers, it being considered that the purely retail place, with the addition of local high license taxes, is paying about all the business will stand.

It may be further said that higher license will be about all the attention the liquor question will receive from the legislature at this time. Many of the better posted political leaders believe that the referendum proposition of the Anti-Saloon League stands little chance of enactment. There may, however, be a further exception in the matter of discrimination between manufacturers of varying capacities; in other words, between the big distiller and the individual with the small plant in the mountains.

Dealers Object. No one expects that the higher license program will be carried through without opposition. Liquor dealers are already protesting that the license is high enough—in fact, too high—and that they are being taxed to a business death. But their outcry, to all appearances, will avail them little, for it seems to be on the card that they must pay more to continue in business.

The amount now paid for a State license (independent, of course, of any local tax), is \$1,250; provided that successful dealers in malt liquors only pay \$500.

The specific sum paid for the privilege of selling ardent spirits by retail is \$850. This was increased by the last Legislature from \$450, and applies only to those concerns which sell across the bar, in small packages or by the drink. No one governing under such a license has a right to make a single shipment of his goods. It is believed that \$550 is almost at the limit, although there may be an increase to \$600. In Richmond, including the city tax of \$500, licensees thus cost \$1,050 for a solely retail business.

The sum now paid as a license for selling under a retail and shipper's license is \$1,000, making \$1,500 in Richmond in all. In other places it is still higher. Bristol, which has probably the highest license in the State, charges \$2,500 for the city alone, making \$3,500 for the city and State. The license on retail and shipping was increased from \$450 by the last Legislature.

Shipper Makes Money.

This license will probably be materially increased, perhaps to \$1,500, perhaps not quite so much. The specific amount is to be determined later. As much as in these days of widespread "dry" territory a great part of the proceeds of the business comes from shipments, this is the theory upon which the legislature is likely to work.

That the business has increased to such an extent that it ought to pay more taxes. The wholesaler, who sells in amounts of five gallons and more, is also to be called upon to contribute more to the support of the government. It is some kick on Section 18 of the 1908 code, which governs the sale of spirits, that the State has no right to grant a license to manufacturers or rectifiers in rural districts or in towns of less than 500 inhabitants unless it appears to the court that a majority of the voters of the town or municipal district are in favor of the application for license, that there is adequate police protection and that the manufacture or distillation of spirits will not be contrary to sound public policy. If these provisions are made not to apply to manufacturers who mash an average of twenty bushels or more per day, nor to manufacturers of alcoholic liquors by direct fermentation who may distill as much as 250 gallons of pomace or elder per day. This, it is felt, is discrimination in favor of the big producer and may cause a demand for an amendment.

Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses were issued yesterday in the office of the clerk of the Hustings Court: Herbert Wilbur Jones and Beulah Agnes Cline; Herbert P. Goodman and Kate Inez Gray; John Henry England and Annie Inez Wilkins; Bernard Hubert and Annie Wilkins; Frank Lee Starr and Mary Elmer Jones; Andrew W. Jenkins and Laura V. Minor; Fred W. Mangum and Alice Luck.

Company Dues To-Night.

Officers of the Richmond Grays Battalion, members of the old Company F, 1st Regiment, will be present at the holiday dinner of F Company, at the Seventh Street Armory to-night. Captain A. B. Cousins will preside.

Drills Are Suspended.

By order of Major L. T. Price, all drills by companies of the Richmond Grays have been suspended for the night, until January 2. The armory will be closed during that period.

IT IS

A generally accepted fact that all business depends on Basic Conditions. Statisticians have divided all of the basic subjects into groups. The group are Crops, Metals Mined, Foreign Trade, Money Movements, etc., etc.

As the volume of business and the prices of manufactured products depend largely on Basic Conditions, every business man is interested. Appreciating the detail work necessary to securing a correct estimate of the movement and tendencies of basic groups, this bank issues on the last day of each month a Digest of Business Conditions for the entire country. Business men desiring to receive this report need only notify us by mail or telephone. No charge is made for the service.

American National Bank

Richmond, Virginia.

CAPITAL, SURPLUS AND PROFITS, ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

SHOPPERS DEFEY RAIN AND SLUSH

Holiday Buyers Fill Streets and Stores and Stay Until Closing Time.

MERCHANTS ARE KEPT BUSY

No Gloom Inside as Crowds Leave With Arms Filled With Bundles.

Not even a constant downpour of rain could dampen the ardor of Richmond's shopping contingent yesterday, and from early morn'g until the "store closed" signs were hung out the purchasers piled the marts with their demands.

It is rather a striking and at the same time pleasing commentary on the "shop early" spirit which is pervading that so many of the fair sex braved the inclement weather in order that the final moments before the great holiday should be made the wisest of those who must serve the wants of the great Christmas gift-giving populace. And it wasn't a nice, pleasure-giving kind of a rain which fell yesterday, as those who braved its dampening persistence can attest, but an enervating, penetrating kind, in which pneumonia and other dread diseases are said to lurk.

More Women Than Men. While the feminine contingent was largely in the majority, it must not be gathered that man followed at far behind. Every mother's son of them trailed behind skirts decked with the mud and debris which had been gathered on the long tramp, and with thought of the staked bravely in the teeth of the rain and even smiled while being separated from hard-earned shinkles under the discomforting circumstances.

Broad and Main Streets yesterday looked like nothing so much as a veritable sea of umbrellas. There were hundreds on the streets, and there were still untold hundreds in the busy streets. Everybody was happy, despite the untoward circumstances. Somehow or other they all—men and women—seemed to realize that the natal day of the greatest influence since man was born was approaching, and that to stifle celebration it there should be no feet too tired to enjoy, no minds too harassed for celebration, and no bodies too weary to breathe in the spirit of the day.

Really it was great—simply great, and nothing more. Into the very marrow of the storm went those who sacrificed personal comfort and even braved sickness for the sake of a principle. They knew not fear, only that early shopping was a part of their duty, and the merchants, for whom some expressed pity, suffered not one whit because of the rain. Thus it is that Richmond is truly a great city.

RUSH TO PAY TAXES

City Collector Hulse's Office Open Each Day Until 6 o'Clock.

The annual rush to pay the last half of city taxes before the penalty is added after December 31 is noticeable at the office of City Collector Herbert Hulse. Citizens who fail to settle on or before December 31 will be liable for the payment of a penalty of 10 per cent. The office is being kept open daily until 6 o'clock to accommodate the rush. Citizens may get prompt attention by settling this week. Next week they will have to take their turn in line.

Lang Released From Jail. Upon an order from Judge Carter Scott, Robert Lang was released yesterday from the Henrico county jail after serving a term of sixty days for a violation of the law against the sale of spirits. Lang was arrested during the last State Fair for running a shell game and gambling establishment, which included the sale of spirits. He was convicted by a jury and fined \$50 and costs for relieving a negro of \$5 at the apple game and fined \$100 with a term of sixty days for the operation of the shell game.

Mr. Watterson Here on January 5. Announcement was made yesterday that Henry Watterson, on a visit to the editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, would speak at the Jefferson Auditorium on the evening of January 5. Colonel Watterson comes under the auspices of the Citizens' National Committee of New York, and will speak in the interest of the arbitration treaty between Great Britain and France.

Building Permits.

Building permits were issued yesterday to the following: W. W. Lee Davis to erect one two-story detached brick dwelling on the north side of Main Street, between Rowland and Meadow Streets, to cost \$3,500.

Action of Ejectment. Trial began yesterday in the City Circuit Court of the suit of Jesse Williams against John J. Hallwood, an action of ejectment, involving the title to property. After hearing the evidence the jury was adjourned to this morning at 9 o'clock, when the case will be argued.

Kouri Again Held. The case of Joseph Kouri, alleged to have murdered one of his children in Syria, was again called yesterday morning in Police Court, and he was ordered held for the Turkish government. Kouri was arrested several days ago by Richmond detectives at the request of the Turkish embassy at Washington.

Dr. Harvie Improving. Dr. Lewis E. Harvie, of Danville, who was operated on at the Hospital three weeks ago, is improving.

HOLIDAY PARDONS WILL BE LIMITED

Only Two So Far Issued, and These to Richmond Jailbirds.

WILL APPEAL NORTON CASE

Defendant Railroads Resist Condemnation—Labor Cases to Be Heard.

Christmas pardons at the hands of Governor Mann appear likely to be few indeed in number. Applications are receiving the closest scrutiny, and a good many have already been placed "on file." The number of petitions does not count, since Secretary Ben Overt is the authority for the estimate that an average of 1,000 requests for clemency may always be found in the office.

However, the ears of the Governor are not entirely closed to such appeals, and yesterday he released two prisoners in the Richmond jail. One was Etta Allen, who was serving a term of twelve months imprisonment, begun October 4, for assault and battery. Said battery was on the person of a male friend of Etta, who is said to have been painfully hurt in the neighborhood of the cranium by blows from weapons in the hands of the assaulter.

Governor Mann notes on the conditional pardon that inasmuch as the woman had served more than half the term, if she will pay a fine of \$5, which she shall be released. This application was endorsed by Judge Wil and Commonwealth's Attorney McIntire Folkes. In her petition Etta promises to treat her men friends with more courtesy in the future.

The other recipient of executive clemency is James L. Stewart, who was sentenced to thirty days in jail and a fine of \$100 in the Police Court for having taken part in a game of policy. This happened on December 8. Stewart must pay half his fine and must pledge himself to resist the lure of the policy game, or back he goes to jail.

Justice Crutcheff and Commonwealth's Attorney Folkes said it would be all right to let Stewart go.

ROADS WILL APPEAL

Formal Order Entered in Norton Condemnation Case.

Appeal to the Supreme Court will be taken by the Norfolk and Western Railway Company and the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company from the decision of the State Corporation Commission, allowing the Interstate Railroad to condemn property belonging to the other two roads in the town of Norton. A stay of execution of the order was therefore been granted to permit of the appeal. The parties have agreed on a decision in the matter, in view of the oral judgment rendered from the bench, and it was approved yesterday. It states that an "essential public convenience" requires the taking of the land, which is not to be essential for the purposes of either of the defendant companies.

The Interstate proposes to build a trunk line to present terminus in Norton to connection with the Wise Terminal Company, to put in a sidetrack and to build a station, all on roads now owned by the other two roads.

Argue Labor Cases. Half a dozen cases charging violation of the ten-hour labor law affecting women will be tried this morning at Newport News. The cases were argued by representatives of the Bureau of Labor.

The Thalhimer case, argued yesterday in Hustings Court, Part 2, of this city, is expected to be a sort of test on the proposition of allowing department stores to constitute manufacturing establishments.

Movements at Capitol.

Governor Mann left last evening for Charleston, S. C., where he will tonight deliver an address before the New South Society of that city.

Judge W. F. Rhea, of the State Corporation Commission, left last night to spend the holidays in the South. A. G. Jennings, secretary of the Governor's office, has gone to Nottoway to spend the holidays.

PI MU MEETING

Medical Fraternity Members Gather for Annual Session.

The annual meeting of the Pi Mu Fraternity will begin at noon to-day at the Westmoreland Club. Representatives of all the chapters in the society have arrived last night to be present at the meeting.

A 8:30 o'clock this evening the annual dinner will begin at the Commonwealth Club. All local students to the number of about sixty, with students of the medical colleges, who are Pi Mu, will be present on this occasion.

The officers of the society are Paul W. Howie, M. D., councillor; Charles W. Byrnes, M. D., vice-councillor; A. E. Ennet, M. D., secretary; L. T. Price, M. D., treasurer; Carl S. Blackwell, M. D., historian.

CONTINUE FARM WORK

Henrico Supervisors Will Be Asked to Renew Appropriation.

T. O. Sandy, chief demonstrator for the State of the Bureau of Plant Industry, will appear to-day before the Board of Supervisors of Henrico county, to ask for a renewal of the appropriation for the coming year. The sum given last year was \$400, and it is proposed that a similar amount be given at this time.

While the season of 1911 was exceptionally dry in this vicinity, it is felt that the work done was valuable. The former demonstrator has resigned his position, and a new man will be secured—the best to be had for the money.

Quick and Satisfactory Service

In every department will be given you. Assortments are large and all goods are of such a character that they will add pleasure to the recipient.

Gans-Rady Company

SHE DIDN'T WANT TO WED WHEN LICENSE WAS REFUSED

Courtship by Mail Ends Suddenly at City Hall, but Girl Got 'Trousseau Which She Doesn't Need.

The climax of a romantic correspondence brought on through the agency of a matrimonial paper was reached in Richmond yesterday when Henry Hamilton, fifty-five years old, a resident of Wilson, N. C., and Katherine Adams, eighteen years of age, daughter of William W. Adams, of Davis Creek, near Huntington, W. Va., appeared before Walter Christian, clerk of the Hustings Court, for a marriage license. Because of the laws of this Commonwealth deny the privilege to persons under the age of twenty-one years the license was denied. The bride-to-be said it didn't matter much anyway, because she thought she had changed her mind and didn't want to get married.

Persons who were aware of the situation, turned the case over to Chief of Police Werner, and he heard the usual story of a courtship by mail.

The prospective bride and groom arrived in Richmond yesterday morning.

ARRESTS LAST NIGHT

Minor Offenders Keep City Police Court Busy.

Thomas Reed, colored, was arrested last night by Bicycle Officer C. B. Samuels and taken to the Second Police Station, where he was charged with being a suspicious character, believed to have stolen a bicycle. A. G. Jennings, a chauffeur, was also taken to the Second Station, where he was charged with the theft of three rings and a watch from William C. M.

Edwin Brock and James Cosby, who gave their occupation as plasterers, and said they were from London England, were held at the First Station on the charge of disorderly conduct in the house at 1408 East Main Street. Mike Smith was locked up at the First Station on complaint of Mrs. E. Kellam, a contractor, who charged that Smith had robbed him of \$20.

Fred Egge, who was arrested several days ago for recking with a car, fell in the clutches of the police on the same charge, while those of being drunk and disorderly were also lodged against him.

RECEPTION TO BISHOP

Asbury Place Methodist Congregation Acts as Host.

The congregation of the Asbury Place Methodist Church acted as host last night at a reception to Bishop Collins Denny, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at the corner of Allen and Park Avenues, who has recently moved his home to this city, received with him the new address of W. D. Dixon. Hope was expressed last night that the new home of this church, "The Monument Methodist," which is in process of construction at the corner of Allen and Park Avenues, will be ready for dedication during the coming summer.

The present church will be sold as soon as the new address is completed. It is expected that Bishop Denny will become affiliated with the Asbury Methodist Church, as this is the nearest Methodist Church to his home at 2028 West Grace Street.

Overlook \$10,000 in Bonds. T. D. Newell, a contractor, of 206 North Twenty-first Street, yesterday reported to the police that his place of business had been robbed, and a few stamps stolen from the safe. He said that bonds valued at \$10,000 had been overlooked by the thief, who had no difficulty in rifling the safe because it had carelessly been left open. An entrance to the office was effected through a side window.

Here With Prisoner. Sheriff J. C. Cooke, of King William county, arrived in Richmond last night with Thos. Holmes, colored, who was arrested in Newport News and held for the King William authorities, who want him on a statutory charge. He was lodged at the First Police Station and will be removed to-day.

Henrico Marriage License. License to marry was granted yesterday by Clerk S. P. Waddill, of the Henrico County Circuit Court, to Eddie H. Sharp and Mrs. Carrie Lee Parsons, both of Henrico.

Two Council Committees. The Council Committee on Water and Street Cleaning will meet at the City Hall to-night at 5 o'clock.

3 DAYS TO CHRISTMAS

FATHER TIME cant do much DAMAGE TO PEARL-I-C ROOFING TIN

Gordon Metal Co. Richmond Va.

Mayor Richardson will preside at Big Meeting January 2, and introduce speakers.

Richmond Advertisers' Club